Feed additives authorisations: application process

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EU to update and simplify the application form for feed additive authorisations

Draft Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 429/2008 as regards the application form for authorisations of feed additives and the designation of target animal species and categories

Draft Annex

Update

The European Commission proposes to improve the process of preparing and managing applications for the authorisation of feed additives (set out in Regulation 429/2008). This includes:

- simplifying the form to reflect the transition from physical to electronic submissions
- clarifying definitions of animal categories to ensure they cover all possible animal species, and to better distinguish between “major species” and “minor species”
- shortening the required minimum duration of efficacy studies for certain animals.

The Commission has notified the proposal to World Trade Organization Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO SPS) Committee (G/SPS/N/EU/898).

Impacted products

Feed additives

What is changing?

The European Commission is proposing the following changes to Regulation 249/2008 to improve the process of preparing and presenting applications for the authorisation of feed additives:

- simplification of the application form (replacing the current Annex I)
- shortening of the required minimum duration of long-term efficacy studies for certain animal species/categories (e.g. laying hens, salmon, trout) (amending the current Annex II, point 4.4)

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- a clearer distinction between “major species” and “minor species”, with definitions of each animal species (set out in a new Annex V).

These new Annexes to Regulation 249/2008, including the revised application form, can be found in the draft Annex to the proposal.

Why?

Since 2021, all applications for feed additives must be submitted via the Commission’s electronic submission system. The current application form, designed in 2008, does not reflect this evolution and needs to be updated to facilitate the management of applications. Experience in handling applications has also shown the need for greater clarity in defining the categories of animals.

Timeline

The Regulation is expected to be published in March 2026, and to apply from September 2026.

Recommended Actions

The WTO consultation closed on 24 January 2026.

Background

Regulation (EC) 429/2008 sets out detailed rules for the implementation of Regulation 1831/2003 regarding applications for the authorisation of feed additives and their assessment. Annex I to Regulation (EC) 429/2008 contains the form that must be used to submit an application for the authorisation of a feed additive. Annex IV to that Regulation lists target animal categories and their respective definitions, and indicates the minimum duration of related efficacy studies.

Resources

Commission Regulation (EC) 429/2008 as regards the preparation and the presentation of applications and the assessment and the authorisation of feed additives

Regulation (EC) 1831/2003 on additives for use in animal nutrition

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Sources

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Draft Annex

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